

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19):

Montgomery, Delaware, Bucks and Chester County Mitigation Plan: ODP Essential Functions

UPDATE

ODP Announcement 20-020

AUDIENCE:

All Stakeholders

PURPOSE:

Governor Wolf announced mitigation strategies to stop the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the following Counties beginning Friday, March 13, in Montgomery County; Saturday, March 14, in Delaware County; and Bucks and Chester counties, beginning on March 15. The mitigation strategies will be effective for 14 days. The Governor's mitigation plan for all Counties includes: (1) a no visitor policy will be implemented for correctional facilities, nursing homes, and others to be evaluated, (2) schools and child care centers licensed by the commonwealth will be closed, (3) adult day care centers will be closed, and (4) while travel is allowed, it is requested that people refrain from non-essential travel.

The purpose of this communication is to outline functions managed by the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) that will be **suspended** and the **essential functions** that will continue during the implementation of the above listed Counties' mitigation plan. If this mitigation strategy is applied in other counties/regions in the state, ODP will take a similar approach.

DISCUSSION:

ODP has determined that the following functions and activities are being **suspended** in the above listed Counties:

- Annual licensing site visits

- Facility-based Community Participation Support services
- Independent Monitoring for Quality (IM4Q) interviews (suspended statewide as of 3/12/2020)
- Supports Intensity Scale meetings
- Quality Assurance and Improvement – *remaining site visits*

The following have been identified as **essential functions** by ODP. Additional operational guidance will be provided to staff involved in these operational areas.

- **Licensing** – Complaints will be followed-up on and investigated as appropriate
- **Abuse and Neglect Investigations** – critical investigations will continue using remote methods/telephone whenever possible
- **Supports Coordination Organizations** – will continue all individual monitoring and individual planning using remote methods/telephone
- **Administrative Entity** – AEs are assigning staff that will be working remotely to complete essential functions including: review and approval of ISPs, incident review, certified investigations related to abuse and neglect, and waiting list management functions.